



36th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of
Government of the Caribbean Community

Barbados, 3rd- 4th July 2015

Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management Ltd (CPTM)

**Written Submission
to the 36th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of
Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**

Increasing The Value of Quality & Standards Through CPTM Smart Partnership Practice - Executive Brief -

**CPTM is a not-for-profit Company Limited by guarantee
Incorporated in England on 13th June 1995, under Companies Act 1985 to 1989**

**“This Company is being established, with the agreement of Commonwealth
Heads of Government, pursuant to their decision taken at their meeting
in Limassol on 25th October 1993 to revise the financial and organic structure
of the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Technology Management.”**

CCGTM was established by the CHOGM, Kuala Lumpur, 1989.

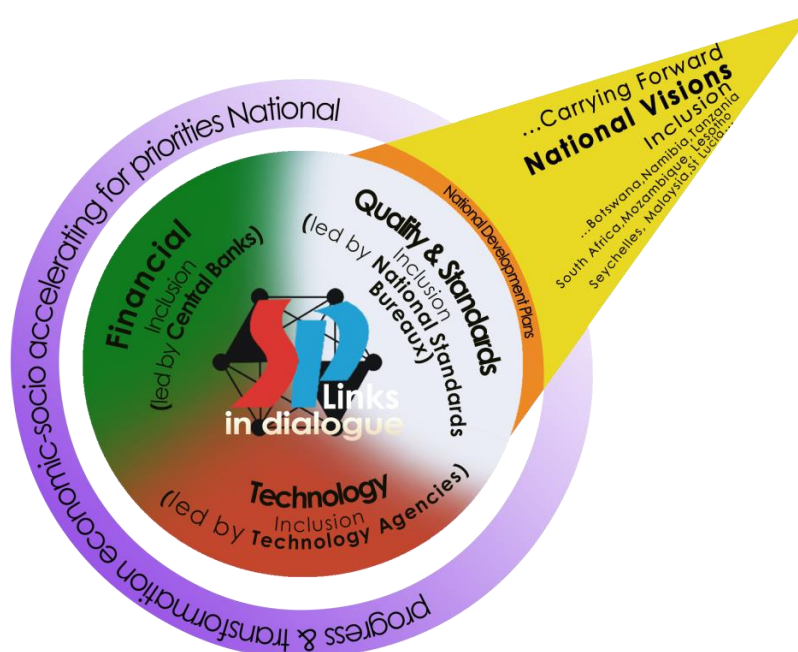
CPTM Ltd was launched at the CHOGM, Auckland 1995.



CONTENTS

| | |
|---|------|
| ▪ Overview and Recommendations | p.3 |
| ▪ I: Introduction: Increasing the Value of Quality & Standards to Socio-Economic Transformation through CPTM Smart Partnership Practice | p.5 |
| ▪ II: Key Issues for the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative | p.8 |
| ○ Quality & Standards and Trade | p.9 |
| ▪ Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade in relation to Manufactured Goods | |
| ▪ International standards and trade in agro-food products | |
| ○ Quality & Standards, Financial Inclusion and Digital Financial Services | p.12 |
| ○ Quality & Standards, Climate Change and Environmental Protection | p.13 |
| ▪ III: Recommendations to CARICOM Heads of Government | p.14 |
| ▪ Further Background Documents | p.15 |

How Nations Can Succeed: Towards Smarter Nations and a Smarter Globe



CPTM Smart Partnership Strategic Framework for Action on Quality & Standards

Overview and Recommendations

Enhancing the Contribution of Quality & Standards

Standards, in particular international standards, are **technical and managerial tools to disseminate technology and good practices to cope with major challenges facing the globe**. Their benefits include:

- **Accessing world markets and facilitating regional trade**, for manufactured goods, agro-food products...;
- **Optimising networked infrastructure**, such as telecoms, transportations, water and energy distribution;
- **Dealing with the intertwined issues** of climate change, energy and water efficiency, food supply and the preservation of the environment;
- **Improving the level and outreach of national systems**, including improving health services and the dissemination of health technologies;
- More generally, **disseminating and leveraging technology and innovation**.

Standards are tools available to all actors within society to **support economic and social transformation of nations and regions**, one of the **core objectives of the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement**.

In order for standards to reflect state of the art technologies and good practices, and become a medium to diffuse knowledge and collective wisdom, it is important that all interested stakeholders are able to contribute in an orderly way. The **CPTM Smart Partnership Movement advocates inclusive approaches**, meaning that **all members of society have access to, or benefit from, technology and innovation, quality of goods and services and financial facilities**.

The CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative: Caribbean Interface

Since its launch in 2010, the **CPTM Smart Partners' Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative** has been actively engaged with **National Standards Bodies (NSBs)** across the Commonwealth and beyond, helping to promote Quality & Standards as a tool for change. **Representatives of NSBs in the Caribbean, especially Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados and St Lucia have been at the forefront of Smart partnership Activities in the region**.

The inclusive nature of the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative is reflected in the **broad spectrum of participant in recent interactions**. They included representatives from the various **Smart Partners' Networking Webs/ Hubs**:

- **Southern, East & West Africa**, including the Botswana Bureau of Standards, the Standards and Quality Assurance Department of Lesotho, the Namibian Standards Institution, the Swaziland Standards Authority, the Standards Association of Zimbabwe, the Kenya Bureau of Standards, the Uganda National Bureau of Standards, the South African Bureau of Standards, the Rwanda Standards Board and TradeMark East Africa
- **Caribbean & North America**, including Antigua and Barbuda Bureau of Standards, Barbados National Standards Institution, Bureau of Standards Jamaica, Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), JAL Training and Consultancy Services, CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ)
- **South East Asia/Pacific**, including Department of Standards Malaysia (Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation)
- **West Asia/Mediterranean & Europe**, including BSI, Smart Partnership Hub in Brussels, African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States (ACP) Secretariat in Brussels and leading members of the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative.

Recent Activities in the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative

- Annual update to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) General Assembly on Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative activities, including on-going interface with BSI (British Standards Institution)
- ***The Value of Standards***, a series of webinars in conjunction with ISO
- **Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade: Trade, International standards and the Smart Partnership Approach**, webinar in conjunction with ISO and the WTO
- Continuing to **grow the interface with ISO, WTO, and ITU...**
- In recent months, the **CPTM Smart Partnership Movement** has begun to **explore the potential for carrying out further interactions with CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and CROSQ's constituent member states.**
- Additionally, the group also initiated **Dialogue with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) Ambassadors with the European Union on EPA implementation** through the Smart Partnership Hub in Brussels.

Recommendations to CARICOM Heads of Government

On behalf of the CPTM Chairman and Board of Directors, we invite Your Excellencies:

- i. To **note the value of National Standards Bodies & Smart Partnership Practice** and the impact that these can have on **achieving National Visions**;
- ii. To **consider the emerging strategic areas of focus in relation to Quality & Standards**, all of which have **particular relevance to Caribbean nations**:
 - **International standards and trade in agro-food products**
 - **Quality & Standards, Financial Inclusion and Digital Financial Services**
 - **Quality & Standards, Climate Change and Environmental Protection**
- iii. To **explore the CPTM Smart Partnership Approach** and how it can lead to **positive action on these emerging areas of focus.**

I: Introduction:
Increasing the Value of Quality & Standards to
Socio-Economic Transformation through CPTM Smart Partnership Practice

1. The **Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM)** is a unique International cooperative organisation among Commonwealth Governments, the Private Sector and Professionals, Labour, Media and Academia dedicated to promoting Technology Management as part of the overall process of Economic Development and Wealth Creation. It was **initiated by Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) in 1995**, as the successor to the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Technology Management/Private Sector Partnership (CCGTM/PSP) established in 1989 - also by CHOGM.
2. **CPTM has evolved from a network of civil servants in several agencies connected to the Commonwealth Science Council** in the Commonwealth Secretariat in the 1980's, who were concerned with the use of science and technology for development in emerging economies. It was believed that cooperation between the Commonwealth countries with their shared systems and values offered a unique opportunity to accelerate progress, development, and transformation. The approaches that were used in this informal professional network were **the free sharing of ideas and resources, the use of 'open dialogue' to address issues of common concern** and the concept that creating 'public-private partnerships' was the best approach to mutually beneficial development. The novel ways that were adopted in those early days became **the founding principles of CPTM and Smart Partnership Practice for Limitless Opportunities**.
3. **CPTM has developed a unique set of tools to contribute to the development and transformation of emerging economies.** The Smart Partnership approach is based on the **sharing of knowledge and ideas, 'open dialogue' and on-going think tanking** with all participants - creating partnerships with win-win situations.
4. But ultimately it is **the Members that underpin the unique position of CPTM**. They come from over fifty countries in the Commonwealth and beyond, and from all walks of life – **Heads of State and of Government, ministers, civil servants, business and labour leaders, academics, artists and youth (Smart 29ers) and media**, - who all **share the same vision, values, approaches to practical problems and the same code of ethics**.
5. CPTM Members together create a **powerful global network for communication and information exchange**. The strength of this networking organisation is that the members communicate as 'global citizens' willing to share their experience without charge or constraints.
6. **CPTM has a clearly defined mandate to provide advisory services to Governments on matters related to science & technology**, to economic development and wealth creation through sound management of technology, using Public/Private Sector Partnerships. This is achieved primarily in two ways: through International Smart Partnership Dialogues and other co-operative interactions and through Networking and Partnership Development.
7. **The Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM), which initiated the Smart Partnership Movement, has a long history of activity and interaction with Smart Partners in**

the Caribbean. Indeed, there is a long history of interaction and cooperation between the Caribbean and the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement, with Barbados hosting an International Dialogue in 1999 and St Lucia organising a key interaction on National Visions, among others.

8. In recent years, the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement has developed three Inclusion Initiatives which, working in synergy, contribute to the framework of National Visions, as well as the economic and social transformation of Nations and of Regional Cooperation. These Initiatives are:

- Innovation & Technology Inclusion
- Quality & Standards Inclusion
- Financial Inclusion

9. The 2013 CPTM Smart Partnership Global Dialogue in Dar es Salaam and the Brief presented to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) that same year both took the theme of *Leveraging technology for socio-economic transformation* as their focal point. When considering the importance of Quality and Standards, in particular through the activities of National Standards Bodies (NSBs), it is vital to remember that these NSBs are far more than merely technical institutions. Through their activities they are able to play an important role in the successful leveraging of technology for socio-economic transformation across a number of sectors, helping Nations to achieve their National Vision.

10. On 10th July 2014, ISO and the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement organised a joint “webinar” on the “Value of standards and Smart Partnership practice for accelerating economic and social transformation”. One of the findings of the webinar was the remarkable convergence of the value of standards and the values upon which the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement is based, resulting in numerous opportunities for further collaborations and synergies. (For more information on this webinar please follow this link: https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6389867504)

11. Standards, in particular international standards, are technical and managerial tools to disseminate technology and good practices to cope with the major challenges of:

- Accessing world markets and facilitating regional trade, for agro-food products, manufactured goods, or services such as IT or tourism;
- Optimising networked infrastructures, such as telecoms, water and energy distribution or transportation;
- Dealing with the intertwined issues of climate change, energy and water efficiency, food supply and the preservation of the environment;
- Designing efficient and adequate buildings and housing facilities;
- Improving the level and outreach of national health systems, by improving health services and the dissemination of health technologies;
- More generally, disseminating and leveraging technology and innovation.

In a nutshell, standards are tools available to all actors within society to support economic and social transformation of nations and regions, one of the core objectives of the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement.

12. The ‘standards’ which are referred to here are voluntary standards, based on an iterative and open process, where all stakeholders are able to take part, associated with clear processes and procedures to eventually reach a consensus at the national, regional and international level, and subsequently disseminate the published standards. These processes are monitored at a national level by the National Standards Bodies (NSBs) and, at international level, by the three apex standardisation organisations based in Geneva: IEC, ISO and ITU. Such **standards should not be**

confused with regulations, but seen as preferred tools to facilitate the implementation of legislative and regulatory measures, as part of a ‘smart government’ approach.

13. In order for standards to reflect the state of the art and good practices, and become a medium to diffuse knowledge and collective wisdom, it is important that all interested stakeholders are able to contribute in an orderly way. This is where the second **convergence between standardisation and the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement** finds its place. Indeed, the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement advocates inclusive approaches, meaning that all members of society have access to, or benefit from, technology and innovation, quality of goods and services and financial facilities.

14. The standardisation process is itself inclusive as Governments, the Private Sector, Academia, communities and civil society at large can and should contribute to the process of creating standards and use the resulting standards for their own progress. Through its dialoguing and networking approach, the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement can be a trigger and a facilitator to increased stakeholder involvement in the standardisation process itself, resulting in a more efficient contribution to developing economies.

15. What can National Standards Body and the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative do to help?

National Standards Bodies play a central role in this respect, and their contribution to the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement’s Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative is crucial. Acting together they can raise awareness on the importance of standards, both at the highest levels of government and industry and to increase participation and take-up by the economic players themselves.

Additionally, the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative presents an annual Briefing to the ISO General Assembly. This provides a valuable platform for its constituent National Standards Bodies to raise and discuss issues that directly affect them and their countries with international representatives and standards makers.

II: Key Issues for the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative

16. In the past year, the “**Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative**” has fostered four topics where **Smart Partnership Values**, as well as its **dialoguing, think tanking and networking practices**, are particularly relevant. They are the following:

- **The Value of Standards and the Value of Smart Partnership Practice (see above)**
- **Quality & Standards and Trade**
 - **Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade: Trade, International standards and the Smart Partnership Approach**, particularly in relation to manufactured goods
 - **International standards and trade in agro-food products**
- **Quality & Standards, Financial Inclusion and Digital Financial Services**
- **Quality & Standards, Climate Change and Environmental Protection**

17. Webinars were held in conjunction with ISO (on the value of standards) and with ISO and the World Trade Organization (on international trade in manufactured goods). Two other webinars are foreseen on international trade in agro-food products (possibly with the CODEX Alimentarius and ISO) and on cybersecurity and digital financial services (possibly with ITU and ISO).

18. In recent months, the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement has begun to explore the potential for carrying out further interactions on these themes in conjunction with CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) and CROSQ’s constituent member states. It is clear that these issues are of paramount importance to countries in the Caribbean and further details are included below.

Quality & Standards and Trade

19. Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade: Trade, International standards and the Smart Partnership Approach

This issue was the subject of an ISO-WTO-CPTM webinar held on 5 February 2015. It dealt mostly with the export-import of manufactured goods and the related WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and how to overcome, through the use of international standards, the hurdles related to regulatory requirements.

20. It was recognized that the international trade in agro-food products, of high relevance for developing countries, has a specific international regulatory and standards framework. This could be the subject of a dedicated webinar in the future, to which the WTO SPS Unit and the CODEX Alimentarius should be associated, as well as, possibly the EU Commission, as exports to this region are an important target for the countries involved in the Smart Partnership Movement. (see below)

21. **The overall aim is to increase exports and reduce imports by adding value locally.** This implies manufacturing and/or processing and/or providing services locally at an adequate level of quality and safety, which itself involves investment, technology, personnel qualification **and standards**. Indeed, reaching out to global supply chains, displacing imports by local production (e.g. processing food for the local tourist industry or producing spare parts instead of importing them) increases a nation's GDP, creates jobs and improves the overall trade balance.

22. Standards and trade

Technical or organisational requirements by legislation or customer specifications impact trade at three levels:

- Technical regulations which set mandatory requirements on the characteristics of products and services, including labeling, manufacturing specifications or personnel qualification,
- Consensus based standards developed with the involvement of all stakeholders through their NSBs, including at regional (e.g. CEN-CENELEC) and international levels (e.g. IEC-ISO)
- Private standards developed by industrial or trade organisations (e.g. retailers) or by sustainability NGOs (e.g. Fair Trade Labeling Organization, Rainforest Alliance, Forest Stewardship Council)

23. Technical hurdles for trade may result from any of the three levels above. Only the first however is the subject of the WTO agreement on technical barriers to trade, which applies essentially to manufactured goods. Reference by regulators to international standards such as those produced by ISO or IEC is recommended to avoid creating unnecessary obstacles to trade through regulations. The WTO TBT Committee supervises a notification procedure for proposed national and regional technical regulations as well as a dispute settlement mechanism, and has developed criteria to characterise standardising bodies producing the type of international standards suitable for complying with the TBT agreement. WTO has issued a code of good practice for standardising bodies that NSBs in particular are expected to abide by and for which ISO maintains a directory of (self-declared) bodies complying with the code;

24. Agro-food products come under another WTO agreement, the Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement (WTO-SPS), which is somewhat different from the TBT agreement inasmuch as it spells out the three (governmental) standardising bodies whose international standards are recommended (in particular the Codex Alimentarius covering food safety, for which often NSBs are the national contact point, which is to be recommended)

25. The role of NSBs

- Overcoming technical barriers to trade typically requires a public-private partnership approach, with the public authorities setting a balanced, export friendly-import vigilant, regulatory framework and companies, particularly SMEs, finding local assistance on technical requirements and standards, as well as on conformity assessment services. NSBs have a central role to play to monitor the world scene of technical regulations and standards of interest to their country, to identify the needs of their constituency with a view to export markets and local production for internal needs and to provide assistance in accessing and implementing the relevant technical requirements, standards and conformity assessment procedures
- NSBs should therefore collaborate closely with their national export agency (or equivalent organisation), in charge of promoting national exports and identifying new markets, and, more generally, with the agency in charge of industrial and economic development
- NSBs should either themselves provide or make sure their clients have access nationally or regionally to an array of services ranging from documentary supplies (sales of standards and other technical specifications), information on technical regulations and requirements, training on compliance to standards and regulation as well as on quality management, and possibly also to technical services (calibration, analytical services, testing, certification). Regional collaboration is essential to optimise the offer of such services and the related investment.

26. What can National Standards Body and the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative do to help?

NSBs and the Smart Partners' Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative may contribute in several ways:

- Include Quality & Standards strategy in formulating National Visions;
- Support the networking of NSBs and increase their exposure to Heads of State and Heads of Government and high level government officials, as well as to the private sector and promote a proactive approach to the role of NSBs to support exports and increase nationally added value;
- Interact with international organisations directly involved in the trade and standards issues in order to raise their awareness on the practical issues and problems faced by economic actors at market level in developing countries actively contributing to the CPTM Smart Partnership's Quality & Standards initiative (cf. webinars with ISO and WTO, and others possible to come with IEC, ITU, CODEX or with the EU in relation to Economic Partnership Agreements and Regional Economic Communities). Expectations and suggestions could be expressed by the CPTM Smart Partnership community to contribute to the relevance of the technical assistance programmes of these international organisations;
- Relate Quality & Standards policies and infrastructure to leveraging technology to diversify local production and improve its competitiveness on regional and world markets;
- Identify and promote success stories among the Smart Partnership community involving Quality & Standards initiatives and trade facilitation. **(For more information on this webinar, please follow this link: https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6389867504)**

27. International standards and trade in agro-food products

Exports and imports of agro-food products are particularly relevant to social and economic transformation. It is a highly regulated area in many countries and regions, considering the health and environmental impact of agricultural practices and the quality/safety of processed food. From increasing self-sufficiency to increasing exports and reducing imports, improving the efficiency of agriculture and the ability of raw and processed agro-food production to meet world and regional standards is a key lever for development.

28. Regulatory requirements are numerous as a balance is sought between protecting consumers and the environment while not posing unjustified obstacles to trade.

- The WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, which is distinct from the WTO TBT Agreement relating to manufactured goods. This agreement encourages the use of international standards produced by three intergovernmental organisations;
- The CODEX Alimentarius Committee, a joint subset of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO);
- ISO which has considerably increased its involvement in this area through the ISO 22000 series of international standards on food safety management, in order to provide producers and retailers with tools to implement regulatory requirements and combine safety and quality aspects.

This international formal framework still leaves room for regional developments. This is particularly the case in the European Union and in the USA where specific additional or more refined regulatory requirements are developed.

The private sector has itself developed collective, more refined standards (e.g. Global Food Safety Initiative GFSI, British Retail Consortium BRC, International Featured Standards), while multinational retailers procuring worldwide often maintain their own specific quality requirements.

29. Additionally, agro-food products are an area where environmental and social labeling and certification schemes are prospering, covering more than 10% of the corresponding world trade. "Organic food", "fair trade", "rainforest protection", "sustainably managed forests or fishing" "sustainable bio fuels" are characteristics increasingly popular with consumers and hence open new markets and may offer value adding avenues to developing countries.

When a country has a high potential for agro-food developments, due to soil, climate and water conditions, realizing this potential to increase locally added value and sustainability is a great opportunity. But the global public and market requirements must be factored in.

30. What can National Standards Body and the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative do to help?

NSBs are in a key position to boost their Nation's ability to produce and export more and higher quality, agro-food products.

The area of agro-food production will be an important theme for the **CPTM Quality & Standards Inclusion Initiative** to explore. It lends itself to **smart interaction** and **collaboration between local communities and farmers, investors and operators in food processing and packaging, public authorities, NSBs, NGOs, the tourism industry (to reduce food imports for this activity), the financial sector, R&D and technology units, etc.**

It is proposed that a webinar be organised for the CPTM Smart Partnership community in collaboration between WTO (SPS unit), CODEX and ISO to explore how Smart Partnership practice could contribute to raising awareness and developing win-win solutions between the public and private sectors, as well as with the farmers themselves.

Quality & Standards, Financial Inclusion and Digital Financial Services

31. The **CPTM Smart Partnership Movement's Financial Inclusion Initiative** is spearheaded by Central Bank Governors. The subject of Digital Financial Services (D.F.S.) as a vehicle for financial inclusion has often been addressed during their interactions.

32. In 2014, the International Telecommunications Union (I.T.U.) launched a Focus Group on D.F.S. and began to consolidate international collaboration between telecom regulators and operators, the financial sector, central banks and other stakeholders, as well as international organisations (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/focusgroups/dfs/Pages/default.aspx>).

The main objectives of the ITU Focus Group are:

- *Identify the technology trends in digital financial services over the coming years and how the role of various stakeholders in this ecosystem will evolve. This will include identifying underlying frameworks, new business models and public private partnership arrangements necessary for digital financial services.*
- *Establish liaisons and relationships with other organisations which could contribute to the standardisation activities of digital financial services.*
- *Describe the ecosystem for digital financial services in developed and developing countries and the respective roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders in the ecosystem.*
- *Identify successful use cases for implementation of secure digital financial services including developing countries with a particular focus on the benefits for women;*
- *Suggest future ITU-T study items and related actions for various ITU-T study groups*
- *Work towards the creation of an enabling framework for digital financial services which could be submitted, through TSAG, for endorsement at the ITU Global Regulators Symposium."*

33. What can National Standards Body and the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative do to help?

It is suggested to take the opportunity of the upcoming Think Tanking of Central Bank Governors (where a number of NSB representatives will be present) organised by the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement at the Smart Partners Hub in London to address issues such as:

- Global technology trends in support of DFS
- Consider how NSBs can help the Nation prepare for these new developments
- Global and regional fora where the contribution of DFS to financial inclusion is addressed and promoted: e.g. Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion under the G20 (www.gpfi.org), Alliance for Financial Inclusion (www.afi-global.org)
- What specific aspects of cybersecurity and information security management should be overseen and possibly regulated by National Central Banks, and what connections could be made on this issue with the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement's Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative and the role of National Standards Bodies and telecom regulators
- What contribution could the CPTM Smart Partnership movement make to the ITU Focus Group and, more generally, to the issue of deploying and securing DFS in support of financial inclusion?
- How and with whom the subject could be addressed at the next CPTM Smart Partnership International Dialogue?

Quality & Standards, Climate Change and Environmental Protection

34. **2015 will likely prove to be a decisive year for the adaptation and mitigation required to respond to global warming.** Global climate warming due to human activities is now an overwhelmingly accepted fact, as is the need to respond collectively and vigorously lest humanity itself be at risk. Many countries experience its effects in a dramatic way: floods, hurricanes, landslips, droughts, air and water pollution increase steadily around the world, with their toll on human beings, health and quality of life. Mitigation is needed to reduce the main cause of global warming which is the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG), while adaptation is required to adjust human activities to its effects.

35. How can economic and social development, implying an increased use of energy and natural resources, be reconciled with the response to global warming? This question will be at the center of the upcoming meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Paris next November, drawn from the public and private sectors, and society at large, from almost all member countries of the UN. Two key issues will be debated: what commitments can developed countries make to contribute their part to the reduction of GHG emissions and how, and at what level, the necessary investments and technical assistance for the developing world for adaptation and mitigation will be financed. Participants will seek to turn the promised “Green Climate Fund” of \$100 billion per year into reality. During the Convention, the UN General Assembly will consider transforming “the Millennium Development Goals-MDGs” into the “Sustainable Development Goals-SDGs” (see: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>)

36. What can National Standards Body and the CPTM Smart Partnership Quality and Standards Inclusion Initiative do to help?

NSBs play a key role in the response to climate change by providing key tools to in the form of:

- Terminology, definitions and taxonomy;
- Data acquisition, processing and exchange;
- Interoperability;
- Measurement, analysis and test methods;
- Performance standards and indicators for appliances, equipment, buildings or systems;
- Labeling and communication standards;
- Calculation methods for energy savings, performance and systems;
- Design standards;
- Management and audit standards;
- Conformity assessment (e.g. energy savings certificates, energy certification of buildings, certification of energy services companies (ESCO), product certification, certification of energy management systems)

Quality & Standards provide energy efficiency, environmental design or effective impact of environmentally friendly technologies and products.

Considering the network developed within the CPTM Smart Partnership Movement on the issue of Quality and Standards, involving several National Standards Bodies, it is proposed to take up the theme of climate change and the protection of the environment and focus on how its actuality could be turned into opportunities to support economic and social development, with particular emphasis on the actions of the National Standards Bodies.

III: Recommendations to CARICOM Heads of Government

On behalf of the CPTM Chairman and Board of Directors, we invite Your Excellencies:

- i. To **note the value of National Standards Bodies & Smart Partnership Practice** and the impact that these can have on **achieving National Visions**;
- ii. To **consider the emerging strategic areas of focus in relation to Quality & Standards**, all of which have **particular relevance to Caribbean nations**:
 - **International standards and trade in agro-food products**
 - **Quality & Standards, Financial Inclusion and Digital Financial Services**
 - **Quality & Standards, Climate Change and Environmental Protection**
- iii. To **explore the CPTM Smart Partnership Approach** and how it can lead to **positive action** on these emerging strategic areas of focus.

Further Background Documents

- The CPTM Way - The Smart Partnership Way
https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6395745578
- Limitless Opportunities through Smart Partnership - Manifesto
https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6401235714
- What is Smart Partnership Dialogue?
https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6337006306
- CPTM-ISO-WTO Webinar on Non-Tariff Measures for Trade, International Standards and Smart Partnership Approach
https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6389867504
- Highlights & Glimpses of the 19th CPTM AGM and Smart Partners Get Together at the Hub
https://www.sugarsync.com/pf/D667256_92_6344490904
-



“Increasing The Value of Quality & Standards Through CPTM Smart Partnership Practice”

CPTM Submission to the

36th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)



For further information and background, please contact:

CPTM Smart Partners' Hub
63 Catherine Place
London SW1E 6DY
Tel: +44 (0) 207 798 2500
Fax: +44 (0) 207 798 2525
Email: smart.partnership@cptm.org
or please visit www.cptm.org

Published by CPTM, London, June 2015
Produced and edited by the CPTM Smart Partners' Hub team
with special contributions from Mr. Alan Bryden

Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management Ltd, Registered in England. Number 3067909
Established by CHOGM, 1995, New Zealand, initiated in 1984 by Commonwealth Science Council